



women's
service
network

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June 5, 1990

Anne Drabczyk, M.P.H., C.H.E.S.
SAFE Coalition
KCHD
700 Fuller, NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Dear Anne:

It is a pleasure to submit a letter of support for the SAFE Coalition!

I have been co-chair of SAFE for over a year and I have felt honored to be a part of this innovative, much needed coalition.

As director of a chemical dependency prevention and education program for women, I have worked with many clients who have serious addictions to nicotine, which have resulted in devastating health, financial, social and employment complications. Because nicotine is a drug, it is crucial to provide education, prevention and early intervention in our community. It becomes especially important to impact the youth, as they are attracted to the glamour and sophistication associated with smoking. Reducing the access to tobacco products for youth is a step in the right direction of early intervention. Moreover, nicotine is one of the "gateway drugs", (along with alcohol and marijuana), that lead young people to experimentation and use of other drugs.

SAFE is vital to the continuing of education, prevention programming and healthy lifestyle choices for the residents of Kent County. I have and will continue to be a part of numerous boards, committees, and councils, however, SAFE is one coalition that I will be involved with for a long time, for personal and professional reasons.

Smokefree Air For Everyone is more than just a concept

Good luck and continued success.

Sincerely,

Eunice C. Rhodes
Director of Prevention, WSN
Co-chair, SAFE Coalition

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